

Living as God intended *Romans 6 to 8*

Winning over Sinning *Romans 6:1-10*

At my father's funeral, many of my cousins whom I hadn't seen since childhood were present. When I stood up to give a tribute, some of them gasped – I looked so much like my father when they last saw him!

I am my father's son! But for many years I was living a life that was out of sync with his character.

During that time I was only like him outwardly

Living as God intended ... not merely outward ...

Paul here is dealing with HOW we live as God intended

Winning over sinning – is critical...

Salvation is not only getting us into heaven, it's getting heaven into us!! (penalty/power/presence)

Romans – the gospel: *God's grace → sinful man*

“Shall we go on sinning that grace may abound...”

Ch 5 *(One act of disobedience / one act of obedience ... Where sin increased (law), grace super-increased)*

Can we live as we like, so long as we have trusted Jesus?

“May it never be!” Absolutely not!

Vs1-11 We should not because we are united to Christ

Vs 12-14 We need not because sin's dominion ... broken

Vs 15-19 We must not b. that would make sin our master

Vs 20-23 We dare not because it would bring disaster

Why can we not go on sinning?

1. We have broken with sinful living

(v. 1-4,6-7)

HOW?

I. We have finished with our life of sin

v.2 - *“how can ... continue...”* p.t. ‘to abide’ in it (*happy*)

*God's grace not only forgives, it delivers us from sinning
... not only justifies, it sanctifies*

Titus 2:11-12 *"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age"*

v.2 Because of our commitment to Christ

"May it never be!" emphatic. The thought is abhorrent

(Should a man who marries still play the field?)

The Christian life begins with repentance - death to sin.

"Died to sin" – the central truth (the rest of the chapter ...)

How have we died to sin?

- **Not died to the influence of sin** (c/f v.11-13)
- **We have died → reign of sin**

aor. ind. active: *"We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?"* I did it – I chose / histcl fact (**repentance**)

We severed our relation with sin ... we completely broke w. sin
reign (*word – ruling king*)

"the wrong side of the road"!

v.3-4 Because of our public confession in baptism

The symbolism of baptism ... **death**

v.3 *"all of us who were ... into ('with respect to') His death"*

Baptism represents the one, irreversible step

"We were buried" = death has occurred

(Baptism is the external proof of death to sin,

just as burial is the external proof of physical death)

HOW *have we broken with sinful living?*

II. We are freed from our slavery to sin

v7 – *"anyone ... freed"* → 'oo' = declared (shown) to be

Before – I sinned as a way of life, **now** I sin because I choose

The 3 statements in verse 6 ... in reverse order

1. No longer slaves of sin – because...

2. **“the body of sin”** = sin-dominated (motivated & controlled)

Sin uses the body for its own evil purposes

“done away” – rendered powerless

because...

3. **Our old self was crucified** ... Aorist Pass. (done to/for us)

not our lower self but our former self (what we were ‘in Adam’)

The only way of getting out of being ‘in Adam’ is to die!

Why can we not go on sinning?

2. We have begun a new life (v.4-5; 8-11)

- **We are united with Christ**

Verse 5 – **You can't die with Christ and not be risen with Him**

united = planted together as in graft

not meta ... with (**ingredients**),

but ‘sun’ – mingled, bonded, (**baked!**)

- **We are alive in Christ**

I. We need to know this truth

Verse 4 - **“we too may have a new life”**

Illust – old leaves on oak tree resist falling, but come spring, when new life invigorates the branches, they have to fall off!

Verse 8 **“We believe...”** – pres. active ... constantly holding to a belief that controls our lives!

**Christ did not come into your life to improve you ...
replace you!**

II. We need to apply this truth

Verse 11 **“consider yourselves dead to sin”**

* present tense – constantly looking at yourself **as a newly freed slave**

Why can we not go on sinning?

3. We have a new Master (v.12-14)

- **Sin's rule is to be refused**

Sin is seen as a usurper / throne - demands obedience

I. We are to make a conscious choice not to obey

Verse 12 *“do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies”*

It is not automatic – sin is a choice for us

II. We have assurance of victory through God's grace

Verse 14 – *“For sin will have no dominion over you”* – not an imper.

- **Christ's rule is to be established**

Verse 13 – yield

(present, to put at someone's disposal (often used in a military sense)

your members = tool or weapon)

Victory is not me conquering sin, but Christ conquering me!
